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Diocesan Church Society of New Brunswick.

OCCASIONAL PAPER.—No. 8.

The last paper gave some account of two districts which are calling out for help. This paper is intended to present a more encouraging prospect, and give an account, somewhat superficial indeed, but true so far as it goes, of work that has been done with the money raised in answer to the appeal made two years ago.

This time last year the *Occasional Paper* gave sketches of the Missions which were then without clergymen; several of these are being now served with zealous workers.

ALBERT.—Here the Rev. A. J. Cresswell has been at work for more than a year. He found the prospect not very encouraging, but good work has been done, and preparation has been made for more work. To speak first of that which is perhaps least important, the temporal affairs have been greatly improved. A glebe house has been acquired, owing mainly to the self-denying efforts of one devout and earnest Church member, and the purchase money has been nearly provided. Then the glebe lands, which have been the prey of unscrupulous trespassers for many years, are being reclaimed and the title of the Church vindicated. This is something, for after all, as has been well said, "this world's goods form the instrumentality of our probationary progress." But, still better, spiritual prospects are brightening. At Hopewell Hill a small church has been nicely repaired and fitted up. At Hillsboro services have been regularly held once a fortnight, and seem to be highly appreciated, especially at the Festivals. The ladies of the congregation have, for the past year, been strenuous in their efforts to build a small church, by the sale of fancy articles which have emanated from their sewing circle. A number of prayer books and hymn books has been presented by two gentlemen of the congregation.

At New Ireland a successful effort has been made by a good layman to repair the church, which will enable the Missionary to

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have divine service in this neglected, though once thriving, church section of the county.

CANTERBURY.—In September last the Rev. J. C. Titcombe arrived at this Mission, and at once set to work with a will, and there has been a wonderful response among the people. The services at the Station Church have been crowded, and a thriving Sunday School and Bible Class have been growing in numbers. At the moment of writing there are 49 children in the school, 29 boys and 20 girls, and 17 adults in the Bible Class, and these are constant in attendance whatever other attractions there may be, or however much the weather may entice them to remain at home. A Literary Association was started and worked with success to keep the young men from those places which do not vote against the Scott Act. A fine toned bell has been provided, on which some $30 remains to be paid. In Advent and Lent the special services on week days have been well attended, and at the three hours service on Good Friday forty-two persons were present, and remained the whole time. Indeed the present prospect of Canterbury Mission shows what may be done by God's blessing upon earnest work even in the short space of six months, and must make those acquainted with it thank God and take courage. This Mission has no endowment and no glebe, and it is with difficulty that the people raise the sum required towards the Missionary's stipend. There is no place of residence for the clergyman, and the churches are in a sad state; one building, which has done duty as a church for many years, is literally falling down. The needs of Canterbury are many, but help is especially required to build a church at the Station and, if possible, a room for a Sunday school.

JOHNSTON.—Here the Rev. C. P. Hanington has been domiciled for a year. It would be impossible to exaggerate the heartiness with which he was received. Before his arrival a clergyman, going over to visit some one, found many teams at work ploughing, and many hands planting the eight acres which had just been purchased as glebe. Soon after his arrival it was suggested that an organ should be obtained for the Church, and in a week's time it was in the Church free of debt! Then the pretty little Church at Goshen, which had been some years in building, was completed, and was consecrated by the Metropolitan. Most gratifying, indeed, must it have been to Mr. Leonard, whose energy and perseverance had achieved this result. The work has been going on prosperously in this way for the year, and now a confirmation class is being prepared, whereby it is hoped a goodly number will be added to the present little flock of communicants.

MADAWASKA.—This Mission has been re-opened after a long silence. The Rev. W. B. Armstrong is now working here, and dividing his time between Grand Falls and Little Falls. At Edmundston the picturesque Church has been opened for service since Mr. Armstrong's arrival; and the little flock of church folk there have shown how highly they prize the ministrations of the Church by contributing liberally to the support of the minister.

WELDFORD.—Here the Rev. Henry Holloway has been working nearly a year with good success. Soon after his arrival the Parish Church, which had been rebuilt during the vacancy with money collected while Mr. Armstrong was in charge of the parish, was consecrated by the Metropolitan. But there is no Rectory near this Church, and the only suitable house to be rented was at Weldford Station, and there Mr. Holloway settled in the house formerly occupied by Mr. Armstrong. At the Station and at the mills at Mortimore, near by, there is a growing settlement for which there was no place of worship but a public hall. Mr. Holloway determined to have a Church here, and after some little trouble a site was acquired and the nave of a very neat and commodious building was commenced on Oct. 6th and finished Nov. 8th. On Nov. 15th the building was opened by the Bishop Coadjutor, who caused the license of the Metropolitan to be read. At the same time five persons, four males and one female, were confirmed in the new church; eleven, seven males and four females, having been confirmed in the Parish Church the day before. In Advent and Lent there have been well attended services in the new church, and now a good toned bell summons the congregation to worship. A class is being prepared for confirmation in the late summer.

Such is a brief record of the visible results achieved in the Missions which have been re-opened in consequence of the answer made to the appeal of the last two years. He would have been regarded as an over sanguine man who could have expected so much to be done in so short a time; and the record gives cause for great thankfulness.

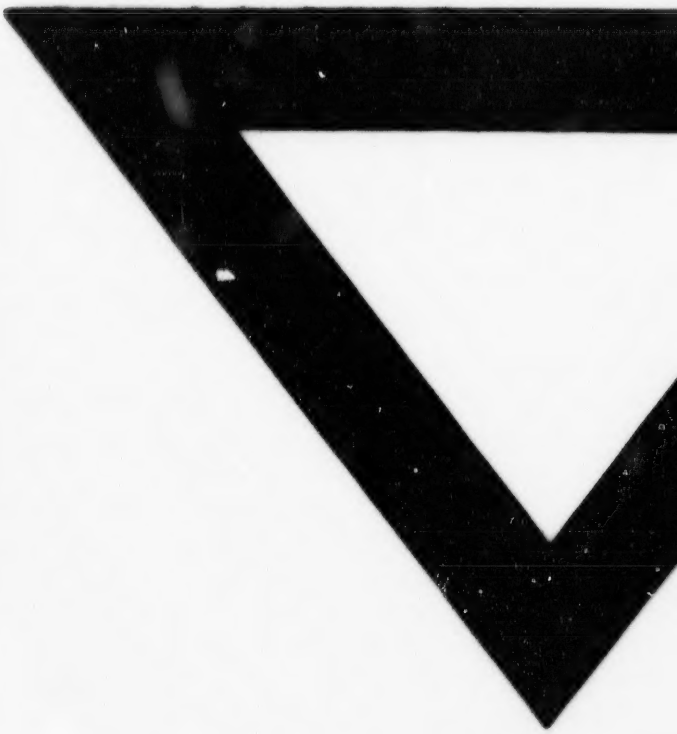
In the above mentioned Missions two Churches, the one at Goshen, the other at Weldford, have been consecrated, and one Church has been built and opened at the station at Weldford. In other parts of the diocese three churches have been consecrated during the past year, and one Mission Hall has been opened.

At *New Denmark*, in the colony of the Danes, a Church has

been consecrated, under the dedication name of St. Ansgar; and the earnest little colony, to their great delight and satisfaction, now worship in a consecrated building of their own. At *Kingston*, Kent County, in the parish of Richibucto, a neat little Church has been built by the exertions and care of the Rector, Mr. Almon. It was consecrated late in the summer. At *Centreville* a Church has been erected by the little flock under the care of the Rector, Mr. Flewelling, which was consecrated last year. At *Moncton* a Mission Hall has been built and opened, and a lately ordained Deacon has been sent to help the devoted Rector in his arduous work. This Mission Hall has been productive of great good, directly and indirectly. Directly, for the night school held in it averages nearly fifty scholars, and the Sunday School about the same number, while the services (one on Sunday evening and one on Wednesday) have been well attended by the class of persons for whom especially they were intended. Indirectly the hall has done good, for the Roman Catholics, who had left their people pretty well alone before, have opened Sunday and night schools of their own, and thus the poor people of that neighborhood have a double benefit.

It may be interesting here to place on record that the number of persons confirmed in the Diocese during the year amounted to 1,096.

Thanks be to God.

But while we may congratulate ourselves on this record, we must not forget what has been stated over and over again, that *the whole number of Missions requiring aid from the Society cannot be maintained* unless the voluntary subscriptions to the Society amount to at least $8,500 annually. Last year they barely reached $7,500, $1000 short of the minimum required. Still, with the present depression of business, we may be very thankful that we have done even as well as that; but while we are thankful, we must not rest content until we have done better.

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